

STAR WARS



MARVEL

AARON
IMMONEN
VON GRAWBADGER
PONSOR

009

SHOWDOWN ON THE SMUGGLER'S MOON

It is a period of renewed hope for the Rebellion. The evil Galactic Empire's greatest weapon, the Death Star, has been destroyed by the young rebel pilot Luke Skywalker.

But Skywalker's quest to learn the ways of the Jedi continues. That quest has brought him to the notorious Smuggler's Moon of Nar Shaddaa, where his lightsaber has made him a target for a particularly crafty pickpocket.

Meanwhile, Princess Leia and Han Solo have encountered some surprises of their own. While searching the galaxy for a suitable site for the new rebel base, they ran afoul of Imperial patrol ships. Now hiding out on a remote planet, they find themselves facing a far more shocking encounter.

Her name is Sana Solo. She claims to be Han Solo's wife.

And she seems very interested in collecting the bounty on the rebel princess's head....

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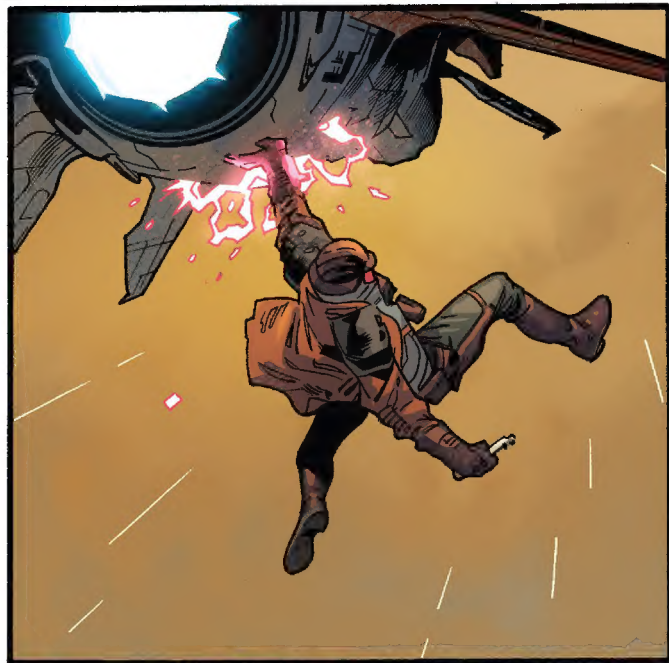
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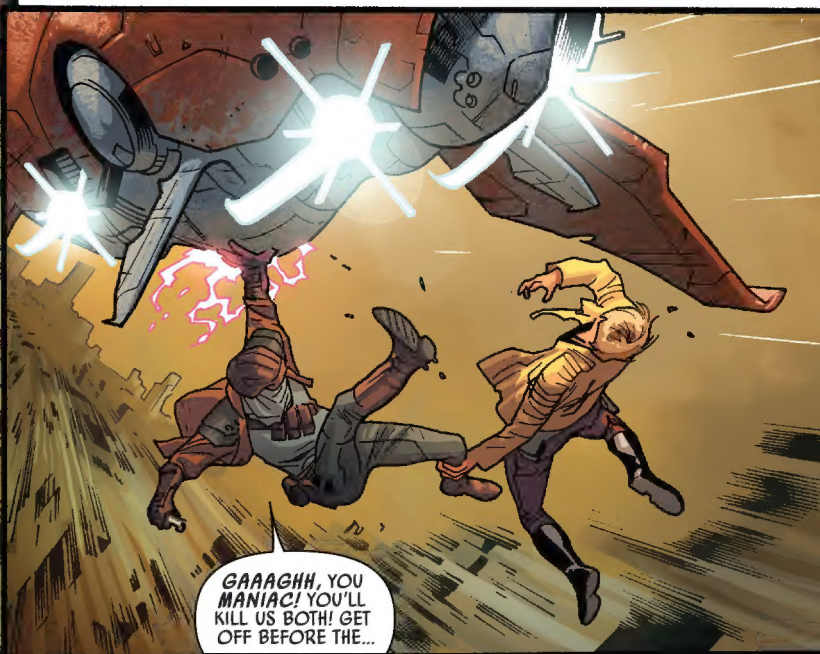
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WHICH MEANS
YOU AND THAT
PRETTY LITTLE
SABER OF
YOURS...

BELONG TO
GRAKKUS THE
HUTT.

NOW PUT
DOWN MY
PROPERTY,
BOY.

BEFORE
YOU GET YOUR
BLOOD ALL
OVER IT.



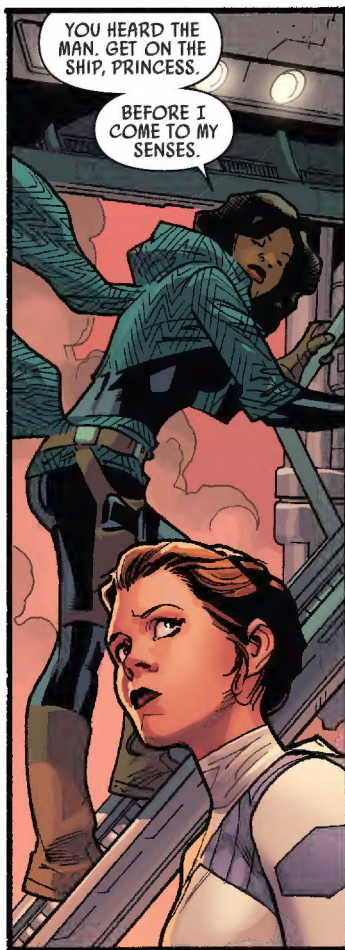
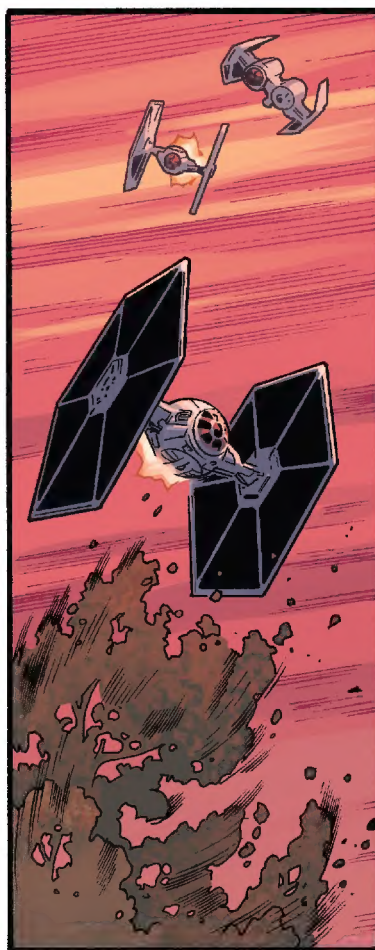
An unknown world in the Outer Rim.

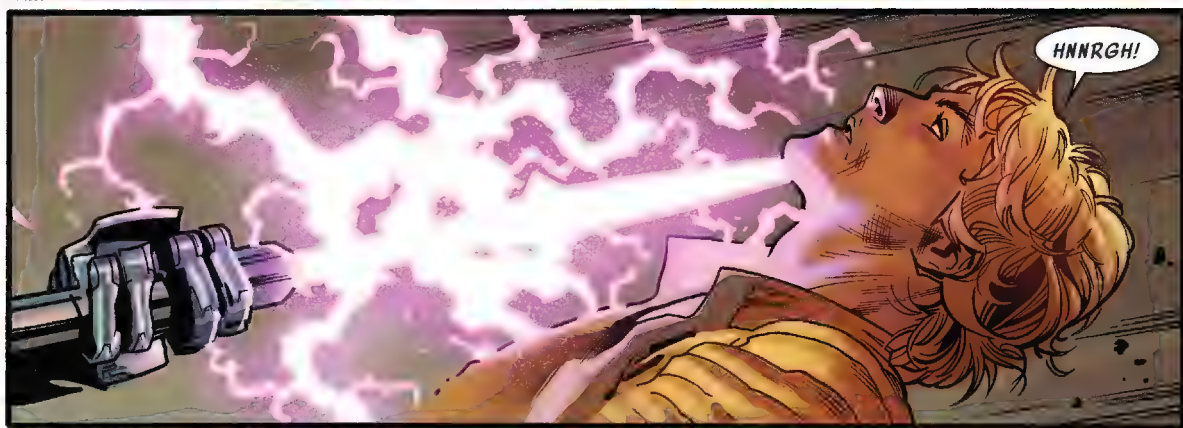
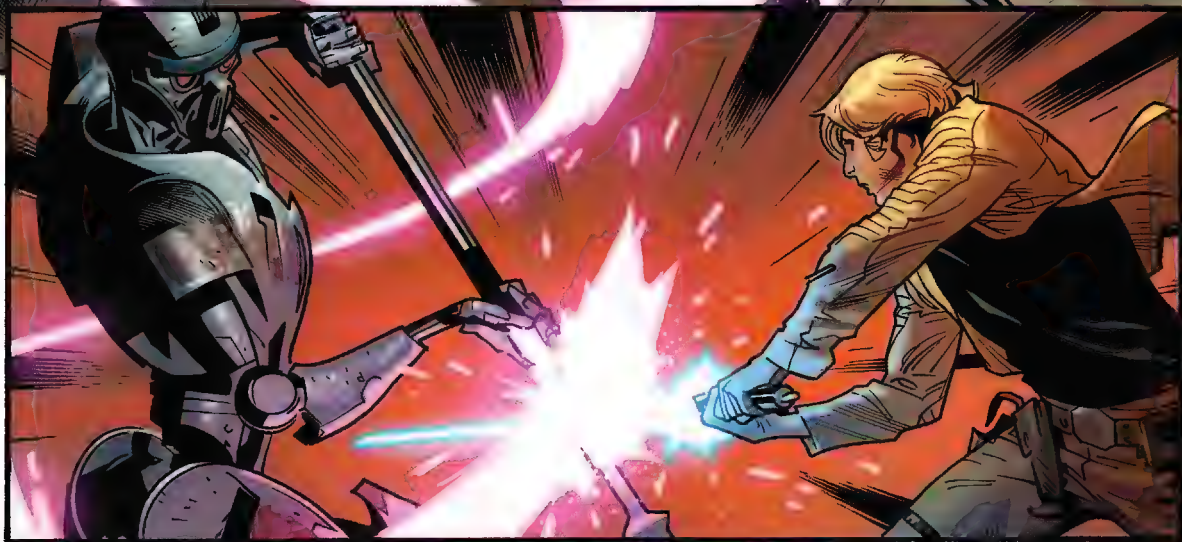
THIS IS
ADMIRAL KEENER.
TIE FIGHTERS,
REPORT.

FIVE FIGHTERS
WERE DESTROYED
DURING ENTRY, SIR.
THOSE STORMS WERE
HELL, BUT WE HAVE
THE TARGETS IN
SIGHT.







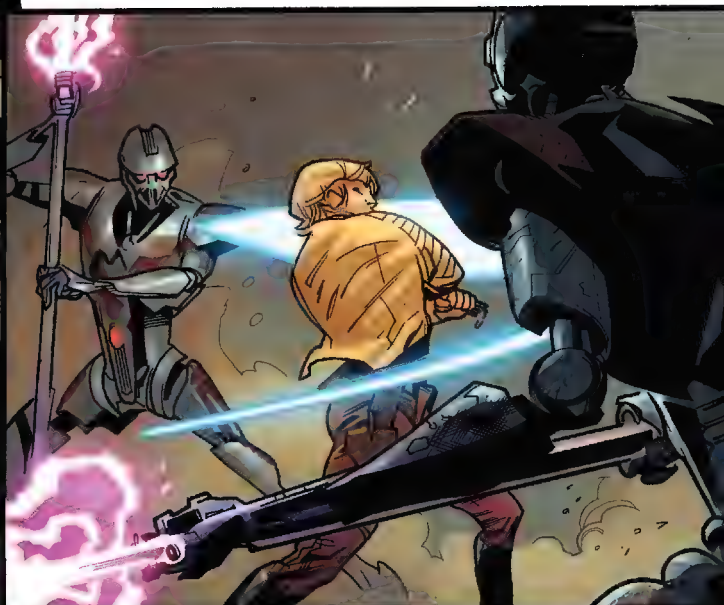




HOW DO YOU LIKE MY
MAGNAGUARDS?

THEY'RE RELICS
OF THE CLONE WAR.
DESIGNED TO BATTLE
JEDI KNIGHTS. OF WHICH
YOU ARE *CLEARLY*
NOT ONE.

FROM WHOM
DID YOU *STEAL*
THAT SABER?

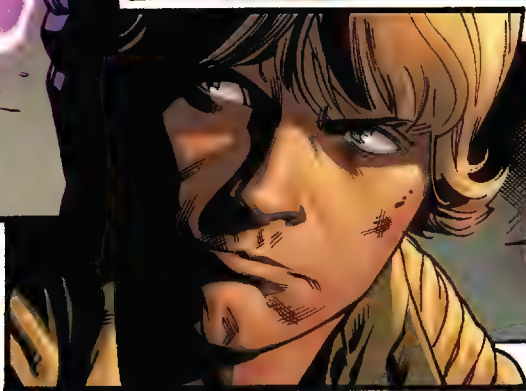


HE SAID
HIS *FATHER*
WAS A JEDI.

WHY ELSE WOULD HE BE CRAZY
ENOUGH TO WANNA GO TO
THE JEDI TEMPLE ON
CORUSCANT?

THE JEDI
TEMPLE...?

AND
YOU BELIEVED
HIM?



HE'S EVEN
MORE OF A
FOOL THAN I
THOUGHT.

I DON'T...
I DON'T WANT
TROUBLE.

NO?



THEN YOU
CAME TO THE
WRONG
MOON.



ALL
RIGHT, WAKE
HIM UP.



DO YOU
KNOW WHAT
THIS IS?



WHERE
AM I?

IN MY *HOME*.
PLEASE ANSWER
THE QUESTION.

NO.



NO, YOU WON'T
ANSWER? OR NO IS
YOUR ANSWER?

DOES
IT REALLY
MATTER?

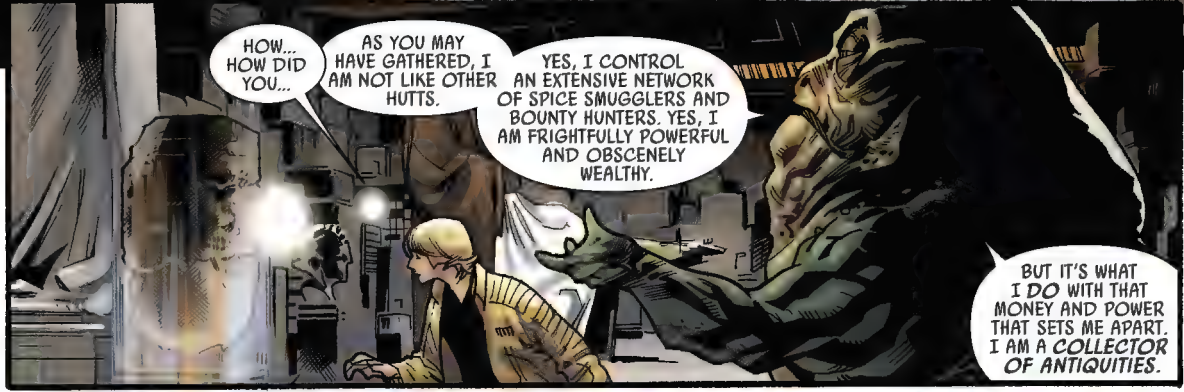
I
SUPPOSE
NOT.

WHAT
IS ALL
THIS?

AH, THIS
IS MY HOBBY.
MY PERSONAL
COLLECTION.
THIS...



...IS ALL THAT REMAINS OF THE JEDI.

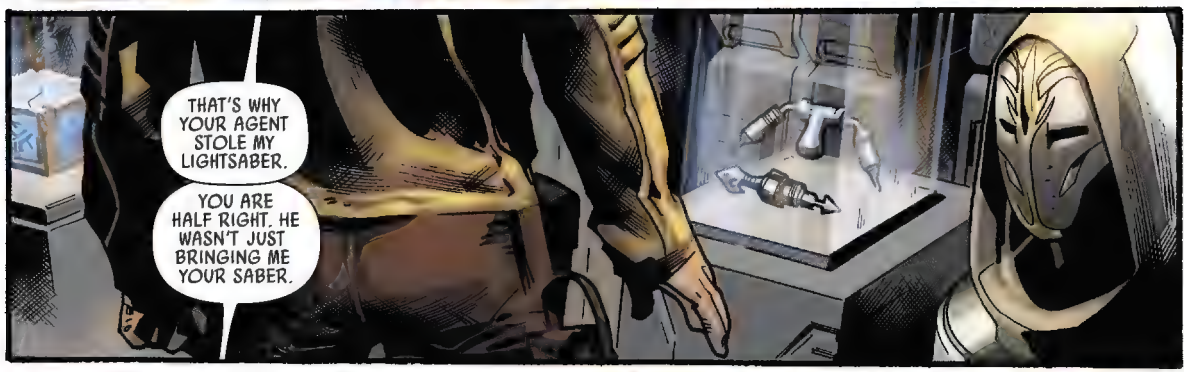


HOW... HOW DID YOU...

AS YOU MAY HAVE GATHERED, I AM NOT LIKE OTHER HUTTS.

YES, I CONTROL AN EXTENSIVE NETWORK OF SPICE SMUGGLERS AND BOUNTY HUNTERS. YES, I AM FRIGHTFULLY POWERFUL AND OBSCENELY WEALTHY.

BUT IT'S WHAT I DO WITH THAT MONEY AND POWER THAT SETS ME APART. I AM A COLLECTOR OF ANTIQUITIES.



THAT'S WHY YOUR AGENT STOLE MY LIGHTSABER.

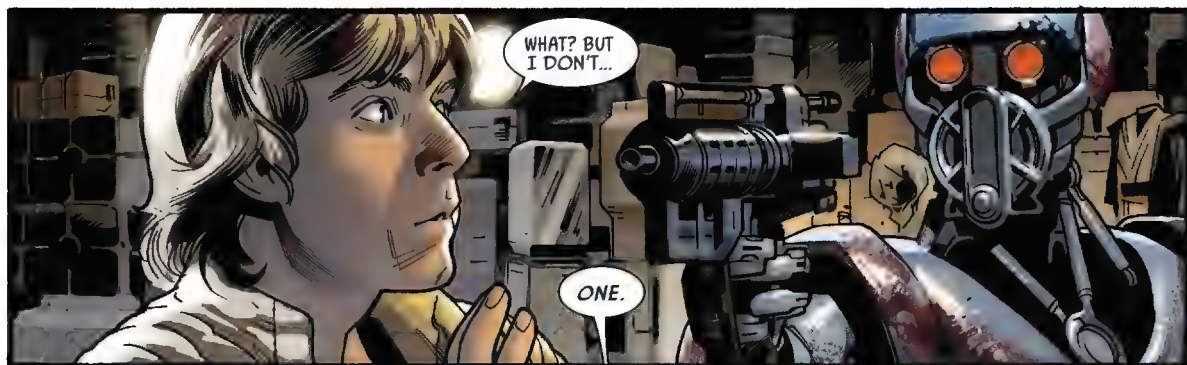
YOU ARE HALF RIGHT. HE WASN'T JUST BRINGING ME YOUR SABER.

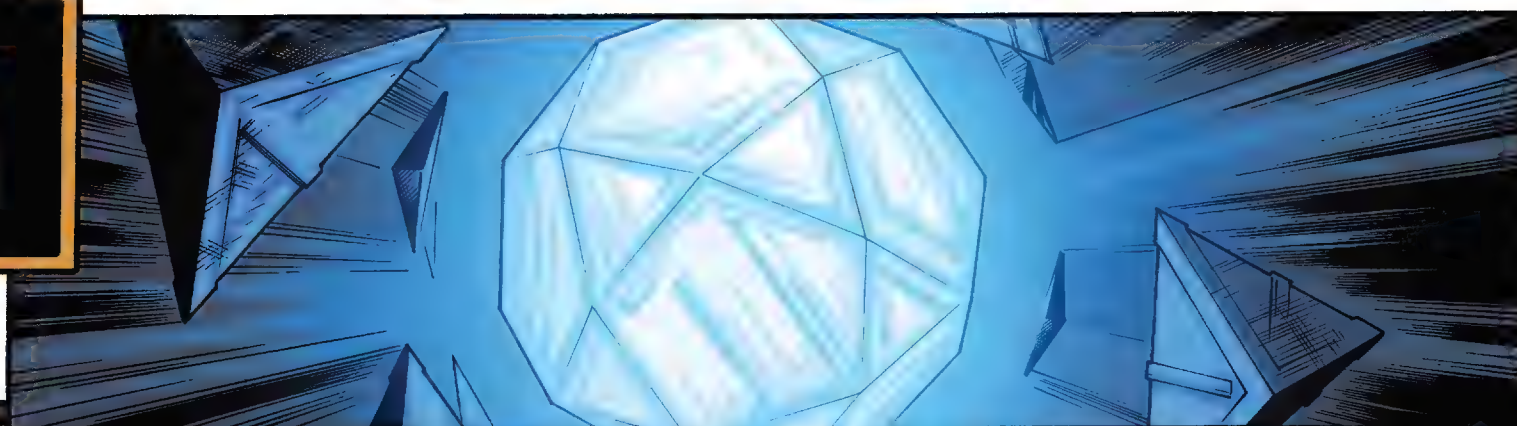
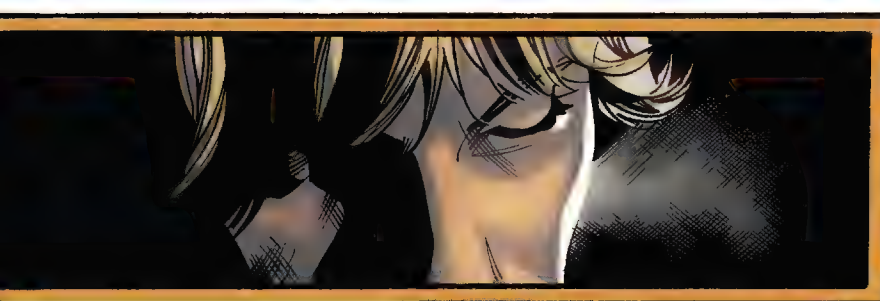


HE WAS BRINGING YOU.

THIS IS A JEDI HOLOCRON. ONLY SOMEONE WHO'S STRONG IN THE FORCE CAN OPEN IT.

YOU HAVE UNTIL THE COUNT OF FIVE TO DO SO.





RECORDED HERE
ARE THE TEACHINGS OF
MASTER PHIN-LAW WO
OF THE JEDI TEMPLE ON
VROGAS VAS. PROTECT
THEM AT ALL COSTS.

ANGER
LEADS TO
HATE.

THE
CONSTRUCTION
OF THE SABER MUST
BEGIN WITH THE
CRYSTAL.

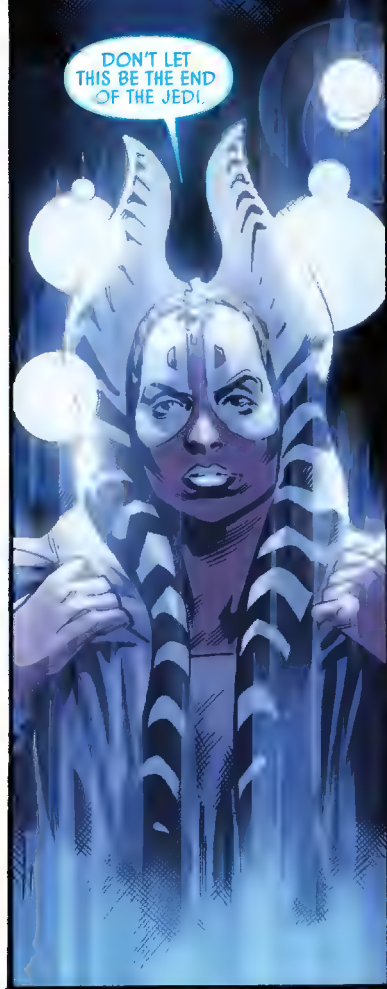
ONCE WE WERE
BROTHERS IN THE
FORCE. BUT FROM
THE HUNDRED-YEAR
DARKNESS WERE
BORN THE SITH.

TRUST
ONLY IN THE
FORCE.



WHOEVER
IS SEEING THIS...
IT'S UP TO YOU
NOW.

DON'T LET
OUR DEATHS
HAVE BEEN
IN VAIN



DON'T LET
THIS BE THE END
OF THE JEDI!



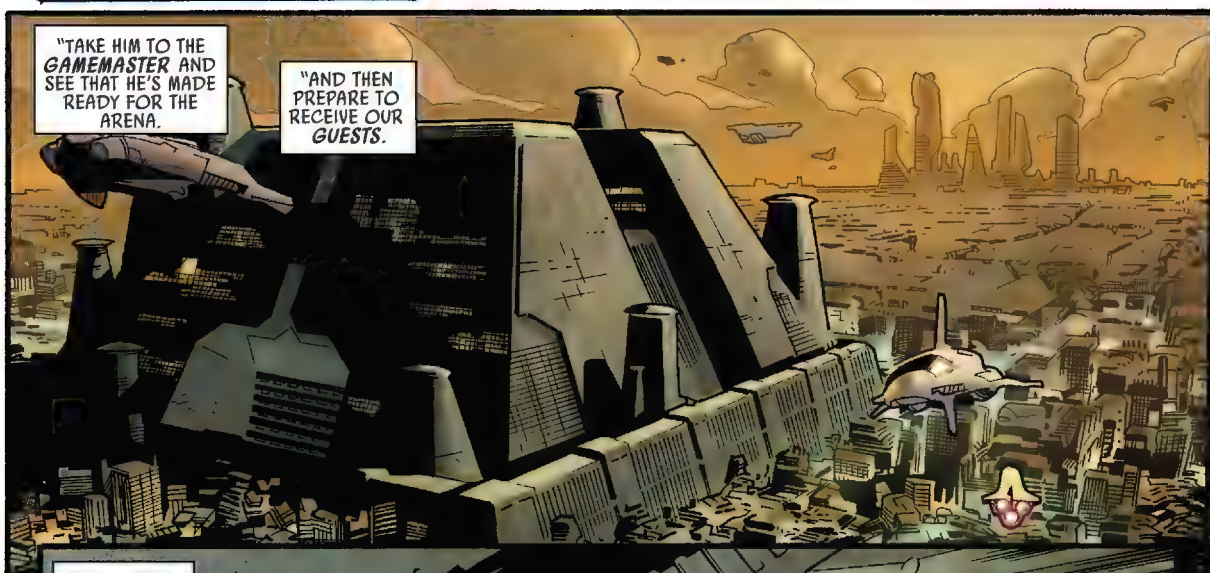
WELL, WHAT DO YOU
KNOW...IT APPEARS
YOU WILL MAKE A FINE
ADDITION TO MY
COLLECTION AFTER
ALL.

BUT...I'M
NOT...

WHAT YOU ARE,
DEAR BOY...IS THE
LAST JEDI.

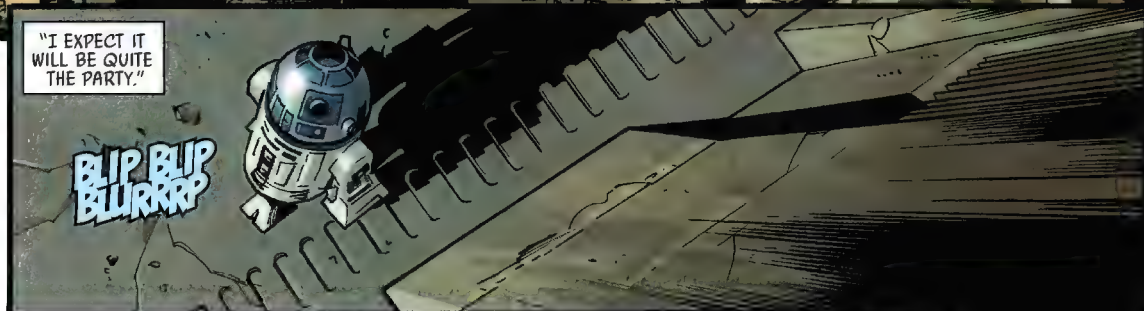


AND NOW
YOU BELONG
TO ME.



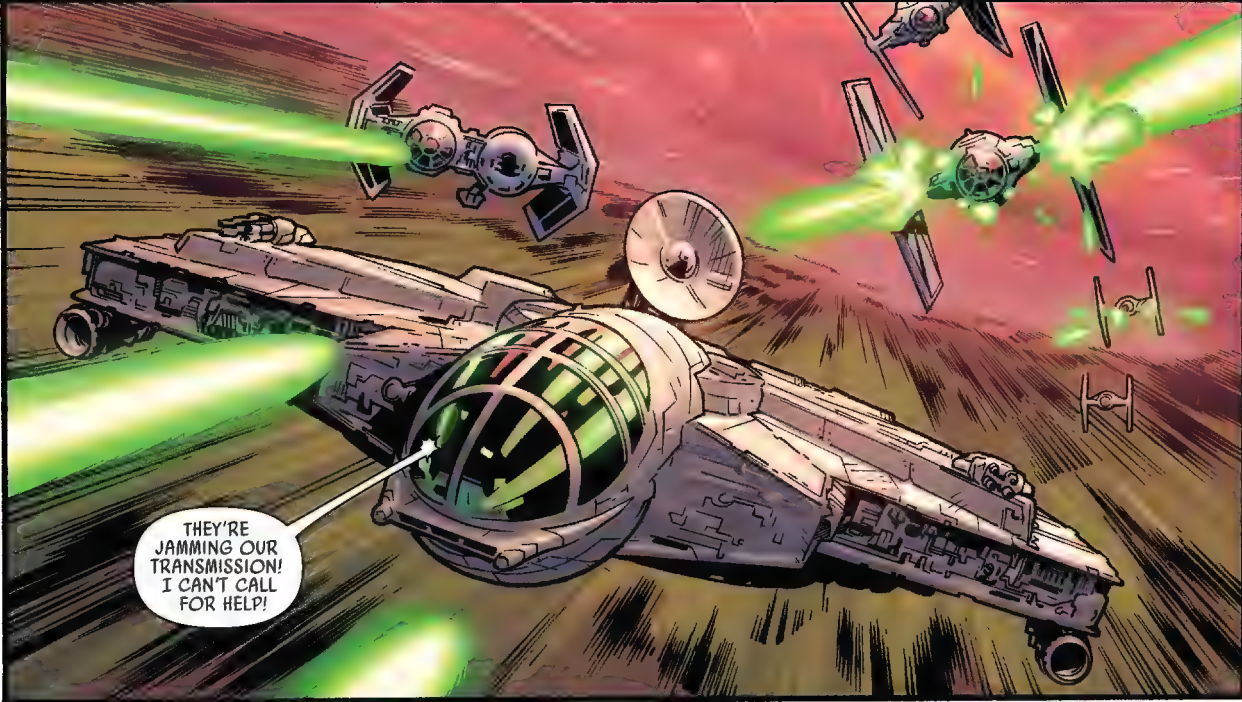
"TAKE HIM TO THE
GAMEMASTER AND
SEE THAT HE'S MADE
READY FOR THE
ARENA.

"AND THEN
PREPARE TO
RECEIVE OUR
GUESTS."



"I EXPECT IT
WILL BE QUITE
THE PARTY."

BLIP BLIP
BLURRRP





"FROM AN R2
DROID ON NAR
SHADDAA."

"LUKE
SKYWALKER'S
R2."



IT APPEARS
SKYWALKER HAS BEEN
KIDNAPPED BY A LOCAL
CRIME LORD, ONE OF
THE HUTTS.

NAR SHADDAA IS
THE LARGEST NEST OF
OUTLAWS AND ASSASSINS
IN THE GALAXY. WHAT WAS
SKYWALKER **DOING**
THERE?

WE DON'T
KNOW. BUT THE
BIGGER QUESTION
IS, HOW DO WE GET
HIM **BACK**?

I'M AFRAID THE HARD TRUTH IS...WE **CAN'T**.
WE CANNOT MOVE IN FORCE AGAINST A HUTT,
ESPECIALLY ON A WORLD LIKE NAR
SHADDAA.

AND FOR A COVERT TEAM
TO GO INTO SUCH A PLACE WITHOUT
ANY MEANS OF SUPPORT...WOULD BE
TANTAMOUNT TO **SUICIDE**.

I SIMPLY CANNOT GIVE
THAT ORDER. NOT TO RESCUE
ONE MAN. NOT EVEN ONE WHO
SAVED SO MANY.

PLEASE
FORGIVE ME,
SKYWALKER.



NEITHER CAN I IMAGINE WHO
AMONG THE ALLIANCE WOULD
POSSIBLY BE BRAVE OR INSANE
ENOUGH TO **VOLUNTEER**
FOR SUCH A--



HHWWWWWWRR

I BELIEVE
THAT ANSWERS
YOUR QUESTION,
CHANCELLOR.

R R R R R R R R W W W W H H

**CHEWBACCA
SAYS...WE SHALL
LEAVE AT ONCE.**

I BEG YOUR
PARDON, "WE"?

OH, DEAR.



STAR WARS

Write us at StarWars@Marvel.com if you want to make it into a future letters page.
Don't forget to mark the letter "OK TO PRINT."

Salutations, fellow rebels!

Assistant Editor Heather Antos here! So how was that for an action-packed issue, huh? Things are certainly getting interesting for Luke on his quest for Jedi training. And how about that Sana Solo? First she's chasing Han and Leia and now she's rescuing them! But enough about them, let's talk about YOUR letters!

Dear *Star Wars* team,

Just writing to say how much I enjoyed the Obi-Wan journal story and YES, I'd love to see more of Master Kenobi's adventures! I feel as if it gives the reader a nice connection to a few years after the end of Episode III. Obi-Wan is still young with the recent events of the Jedi disbanding still in mind and not quite the old man Kenobi of Tatooine we know and love from Episode IV. It bridges a nice gap between those two films. Love the Qui-Gon reference by the way, as he is my favorite *Star Wars* character. Do I smell a Qui-Gon and Obi-Wan team-up series in the future?! Now that would make my inner nerd explode with joy! Thanks again for the awesome storytelling, keep doing what you guys do — you're really giving a whole new life to the iconic *Star Wars* franchise.

Sincerely, Phil

I'm not sure about a Qui-Gon and Obi-Wan comic in the *future*. After all, both Qui-Gon and Obi-Wan aren't exactly corporeal anymore. Although now that I think about it, a comic about the lives and adventures of Force ghosts could be rather interesting...

The SWGang,

I just finished reading *Star Wars* #7 and all I can say is...Wow, Amazing, etc. That has to be one of the most exciting issues I have read yet. Obi-Wan has been one of my favorite characters since Episode IV. I have

always wondered what he did in the time after Order 66. I think we need to see more of Obi-Wan's own limited series just detailing his actions. I mean, he had to be working with Yoda for a while before his death. Please more Obi-Wan!!!

Thanks, Jeff

I may be completely incorrect on this (help me, Story Group, you're my only hope!) but I'm fairly certain that Yoda went to Dagobah not long after the end of Episode III. In which case that wouldn't leave much time for working with Obi-Wan before both the Jedi departed to their respective planets (unless they did it via the Force or long-distance comm devices). Glad we were able to wow, amaze, and etc., with issue #7.

Dear *Star Wars* team,

As a huge fan of the saga, I can honestly say that you guys at Marvel have been doing a great job of capturing the feel of the original films. Hats off to Jason for his spot-on characterizations and to everyone on art for their beautiful portrayals of the universe.

Here's a question that's on my mind: what's it like trying to keep up the suspense in a series where we already know the eventual outcome? How do you juggle the need to answer questions and yet keep the events from becoming too outlandish (even for *Star Wars*!)? Once again, great job to the entire team and I can't wait for more!

May the Force be with you,
Liam Magee

It is always tricky working in a time period where the audience is aware of the characters' ultimate survival. I think the most important thing that we keep in mind when telling these stories is not the question of *if* the characters survive or where they end up come *Empire Strikes Back*, but rather *how* they survive and

how they get there. It's the journey that makes the end result and story worthwhile.

Hey Marvel *Star Wars* team,

I just wanted to give a big thank you to everyone there that helps put a smile on my face with every new issue. Obsessing over new *Star Wars* stories helped get me through chemotherapy earlier this year. I also wanted to say that I'm willing to follow old Obi-Wan on some damn fool idealistic crusade. So please give us more Obi-Wan stories.

Bud Welsh

I just want to give a big thank YOU for reading the comics! Saying that our comics helped you through chemotherapy is HUGE! Just for that reason alone I hope we can make more Obi-Wan comics so you can keep reading them!

Well, that's it for this month, folks! We'll be back next month with more trouble for Luke, Leia, Han, and all of their cohorts a long time ago in a galaxy far, far away!

May the Force be with you!
Heather Antos



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